



Vol. 50 No. 21

Patrick Air Force Base/Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla.

May 30, 2008



Somewhere to run

3



One strike and  
you're out!

9



In the doghouse

10



**Air Force Space Command: delivering space and missile capabilities to America and its warfighting commands**





# Hurricane season starts NOW

**Staff Sgt. Monica Essary**  
45th Civil Engineer Squadron

Sunday marks the official start of the hurricane season that runs through Nov. 30.

Forecasters have predicted an active hurricane season, expecting 15 named storms forming in the Atlantic basin between June 1 and Nov. 30.

Eight of the 15 storms are predicted to become hurricanes, and of the eight hurricanes, four are expected to develop into intense or major hurricanes (Saffir/Simpson category 3-4-5) with sustained winds of 111 mph or greater.

A large majority of the personnel who were assigned to Patrick AFB and Cape Canaveral AFS during the

extremely active 2004 season are no longer here, leaving many newcomers unsure of what to expect from a possible hurricane. Should they evacuate? If so, when? What should they take with them? Where should they go?

The 45th Civil Engineer Readiness and Emergency Management Flight has developed the "Hurricane Survival Guide" to answer these questions and more. Here you will find basic hurricane information, and associated hazards as well as preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a storm.

The guide is available on the Patrick Web site, [www.patrick.af.mil](http://www.patrick.af.mil) by clicking on the "Hurricane Guide" icon on the bottom right

side of the page or contacting your unit emergency management representative.

Whether you are a family of 10 or one, you should develop a family disaster plan now instead of waiting until the storm is lurking off the coastline.

A "Family Disaster Plan," can be done free of charge at [www.floridadisaster.org/family/](http://www.floridadisaster.org/family/), and will help you assess your specific family needs. Nobody knows for sure when a hurricane will form or where it will make landfall.

Our best defense to these devastating forces of nature is preparedness. Utilize the tools at your disposal to ensure that you and your family are ready when the storm comes.

## 2008 Hurricane Names

Arthur  
Bertha  
Cristobal  
Dolly  
Edouard  
Fay  
Gustav

Hanna  
Ike  
Josephine  
Kyle  
Laura  
Marco  
Nana

Omar  
Paloma  
Rene  
Sally  
Teddy  
Vicky  
Wilfred



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# NOAA predicts normal to above normal Atlantic hurricane season

*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association*

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center May 22 announced that projected climate conditions point to a near normal or above normal hurricane season in the Atlantic Basin this year. The prediction was issued at a news conference called to urge residents in vulnerable areas to be fully prepared for the onset of hurricane season, which begins Sunday.

"Living in a coastal state means having a plan for each and every hurricane season. Review or complete emergency plans now – before a storm threatens," said retired Navy Vice Adm. Conrad Lautenbacher, Ph.D., undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "Planning and preparation is the key to storm survival and recovery."

The Climate Prediction Center outlook calls for considerable activity with a 65 percent probability of

an above normal season and a 25 percent probability of a near normal season. This means there is a 90 percent chance of a near-above normal season.

The climate patterns expected during this year's hurricane season have in past seasons produced a wide range of activity and have been associated with both near-normal and above-normal seasons. For 2008, the outlook indicates a 60 to 70 percent chance of 12 to 16 named storms, including 6 to 9 hurricanes and 2 to 5 major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Scale).

An average season has 11 named storms, including six hurricanes for which two reach major status.

"The outlook is a general guide to the overall seasonal hurricane activity," Lautenbacher said. "It does not predict whether, where or when any of these storms may hit land. That is the job of the National

Hurricane Center after a storm forms."

Bill Read, director of NOAA's National Hurricane Center, said, "Our forecasters are ready to track any tropical cyclone, from a depression to a hurricane, which forms in the Atlantic Basin. We urge coastal residents to have a hurricane plan in place before the season begins and NHC will continue to provide the best possible forecast to the public."

When a storm forms in the tropics – and even before that stage – NOAA forecasters at the Miami-based National Hurricane Center are in continuous monitoring mode – employing a dense network of satellites, land- and ocean-based sensors and aircraft reconnaissance missions operated by NOAA and its partners. This array of data supplies the information for complex computer modeling and human expertise that serves the basis for the hurricane center's track and intensity

forecasts that extend out five days in advance.

The science behind the outlook is rooted in the analysis and prediction of current and future global climate patterns as compared to previous seasons with similar conditions.

"The main factors influencing this year's seasonal outlook are the continuing multi-decadal signal (the combination of ocean and atmospheric conditions that have spawned increased hurricane activity since 1995), and the anticipated lingering effects of La Niña," said Gerry Bell, Ph.D., lead seasonal hurricane forecaster at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. "One of the expected oceanic conditions is a continuation since 1995 of warmer-than-normal temperatures in the eastern tropical Atlantic."

"Americans in hurricane-prone states must get serious and be prepared. Government – even with the federal, tribal, state and local governments

working perfectly in sync – is not the entire answer. Everyone is part of the emergency management process," said FEMA Administrator R. David Paulison. "We must continue to develop a culture of preparedness in America in which every American takes personal responsibility for his or her own emergency preparedness."

NOAA's Atlantic hurricane season outlook will be updated on August 7, just prior to what is historically the peak period for hurricane activity.

Tropical systems acquire a name – the first of which for 2008 will be Arthur – upon reaching tropical storm strength with sustained winds of at least 39 mph. Tropical storms become hurricanes when winds reach 74 mph, and become major hurricanes when winds reach 111 mph.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department, is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and information service delivery for transportation, and by providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources. Through the emerging Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), NOAA is working with its federal partners, more than 70 countries and the European Commission to develop a global monitoring network that is as integrated as the planet it observes, predicts and protects.

# Have your little bag of tricks ready

Keep these items in a box or container in a place where you and family members can easily pick it up and evacuate quickly. Make sure everyone in the family knows where the kit is located.

The key is to pack what each member of your family, including pets, needs when leaving home for several days. Label containers clearly.

For the items you use every day or store in a locked box (such as insurance information, etc.), make a list and place it in the box. When evacuation seems likely, don't forget to go through the list and place the items in your evacuation kit.

- ✓ Portable, battery-powered radio or TV and extra batteries
- ✓ Three gallons of water per person
- ✓ Three-day supply of nonperishable food.
- ✓ Kitchen accessories – manual can opener, mess kits or paper cups, plates and plastic/dis-

posable utensils, utility knife, can of cooking fuel if food must be cooked, sugar, salt, paper, aluminum foil and plastic resealable bags.

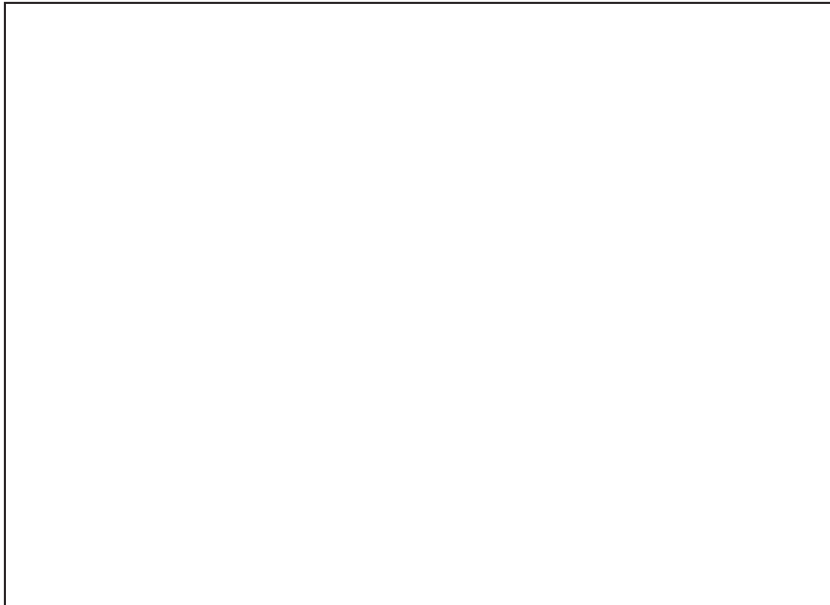
- ✓ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ✓ First-aid kit and manual
- ✓ Credit card and cash. Remember, during an evacuation ATMs and banks could be closed. Therefore, stash some cash in your kit.
- ✓ Personal identification
- ✓ Insurance information
- ✓ Jewelry and other items you can fit in your vehicle that you cannot do without
- ✓ If you have a fireproof locked box or other vessel used to keep essential information, such as birth certificates, wills, etc., take it with you.
- ✓ Extra set of car keys
- ✓ Matches in a waterproof container
- ✓ Signal flare
- ✓ Entertainment, such as books and games
- ✓ Sanitation and hygiene products
- ✓ Tools and other accessories: paper, pencil;

needles and thread; pliers, shut-off wrench, shovels and other useful tools; tape; medicine dropper; whistle; plastic sheeting; small canister, fire extinguisher; emergency preparedness manual; tube tent; compass

- ✓ Area map/phone numbers of potential evacuation sites
- ✓ Contact numbers for the base, relatives and AF Personnel Center
- ✓ Special needs: diapers, baby food, formula, one-month supply of prescription medicines and copies of prescriptions, hearing aid batteries, spare wheelchair battery, spare eyeglasses, over-the-counter pain relievers, including children's types
- ✓ Children's toys/books to keep them occupied
- ✓ Pet supplies, such as food
- ✓ Valuable papers: insurance policies, deeds, birth certificates, medical records, any other important papers you store in a safety box at home and photographs (keep those in a waterproof container).
- ✓ Change of clothes
- ✓ Sleeping bags, pillows and blankets.

## HURCON Exercise scheduled

It's that time for the annual HURCON Exercise. It will be conducted from 10-13 Jun 08. The exercise this year will be in two phases. Phase I is June 10-13 and will focus on hurricane preparation and checklists review. Phase II is scheduled for July 21-25 and will address the recovery phases of the aftermath of the hurricane. Both phases will require personnel accountability and damage reporting (SITREP). Unit control centers will stand up for the duration of the exercise and the SIM switch number is 494-5875. Please review the Ocean Breeze 08-06 ground rules for further clarification.



# Don't mark the spot lightning strikes!

**By William Roeder**  
45th Weather Squadron

Lightning is the leading source of weather deaths in Florida, killing more than nearly all other weather combined. *When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!*

Central Florida is 'Lightning Alley', with the most lightning in the U.S. *Half an Hour Since Thunder Roared, Now Okay To Go Outdoors!*

Our lightning season usually starts in the second half of May and continues through the middle of September. Now is the time to prepare to be lightning safe. *Don't Be A Fool, Get Out Of The Pool!*

Lightning inflicts lifelong severe debilitating injuries on many more than it kills. *Don't Be Lame, End The Game!*

No place outside is safe with thunderstorms in the area. *Don't Get Fried, Go Inside!*

Your lightning safety has two main areas, on-base and off-base procedures.

**On-Base:** The 45th Weather Squadron issues lightning watches and warnings for Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Kennedy Space Center, Patrick Air Force Base, and other locations. Lightning watches and warnings are issued for the following six locations on CCAFS:

Pad-40/41, ITL/Pad-20/Pad-37, Industrial Area, Pad-36/Pad-46, Pad-17, and the Port. The locations on KSC are SLF, Vehicle Assembly Building, Pad-39A/B, Industrial Area, and Haulover Bridge. PAFB is small enough that only one point is needed.

A Phase-1 Lightning Watch means lightning is expected within five nautical miles of the specified location(s) and is issued with a desired lead-time of 30 minutes. The five nauti-



cal miles (about six "normal" statute miles) is close enough for lightning to be a reasonable threat.

A Phase-2 Lightning Warning is issued when lightning is imminent or occurring within five nautical miles of the specified location(s). Follow your approved local procedures when you hear these alerts.

If you don't have approved local procedures, then develop them. Until then, use the following guidelines. If outdoors and a Phase-1 Lightning Watch is issued and you are near proper shelter, finish vital activities quickly and then go inside. If you are not near proper shelter, stop activities immediately and go to proper shelter. Proper shelter is a large fully enclosed building with wiring and plumbing, or a vehicle with a solid metal top and solid metal sides. If outdoors and a Phase-2 Lightning Warning is

issued, you are in danger – go inside immediately! If indoors and a Phase-1 or Phase-2 Lightning Watch or Warning is issued, stay inside until the Watch or Warning is cancelled.

The on-base watches and warnings are superior to the off-base procedures. The 45th WS has a team of well-trained professional meteorologists using the best suite of lightning detectors in operational meteorology and weather radar to locate and predict lightning. But you need the off-base procedures to protect yourself when outside the protection of the 45th WS.

**Off-Base:** When off-base, use the "Four Levels of Lightning Safety":

Level-1 is scheduling outdoor activities to avoid the lightning hazard as much as possible. Use the local forecasts from the National Weather Service at Melbourne at [www.srh.noaa.gov/mlb](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/mlb), listen to NOAA Weather Radio, and know the local weather patterns.

Level-2 is know when and where to go for lightning safety when outdoors. Watch the skies for signs of approaching or locally developing thunderstorms. Go to a safe place early. If you hear thunder, the storm is getting close enough to be a danger, go to a safe place immediately – *'When thunder roars, go indoors!'* Stay in the safe place for 30 minutes or more after hearing the last thunder – *'Half an hour since thunder roars, now okay to go outdoors!'* The safest place from lightning available to most people is a large fully enclosed building with wiring and plumbing, a typical house, office, school, or store. A vehicle with a solid metal roof and solid metal sides offers good protection too, a typical car, bus, or truck.

Level-3 is used if you

have to be outside with thunderstorms in the area. This is dangerous and should only be done if there is no alternative. Avoid the riskiest locations and activities. Avoid elevated places. Avoid wide-open areas like sports fields and beaches. Avoid tall isolated objects, especially do not go under trees to get dry. Get out of, off of, and away from large bodies of water – *'Don't be a fool, get out of the pool!'* Open structures like pavilions and rain shelters provide no protection.

Level-4 is first aid for lightning victims. All lightning deaths are from cardiac arrest or stopped breathing at the time of the lightning strike. CPR or rescue breathing is the recommended first aid. Have someone call 911. If an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is available, use it on victims with cardiac arrest. If the cardiac arrest is a fibrillation condition, the AED works much better than CPR. If it is not a fibrillation, then the AED won't fire and you should resume CPR.

More information on lightning safety is at [www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov](http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov). For lightning safety training, e-mail [william.roeder@patrick.af.mil](mailto:william.roeder@patrick.af.mil) or call 853-8410.

Lightning kills, play it safe! Remember my favorite lightning safety slogan, *Lightning Ignored, Darwin Award!*



# Use your instincts to help your pet

## County Animal Shelters Boarding

All county Animal Shelters will be open, unless ordered evacuated, and will receive pets on an Emergency basis. Call the following numbers for information concerning pet sheltering during a disaster:

- Brevard County Animal Services and Enforcement - 633-2024

- Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Titusville - 267-8221
- Central Brevard Humane Society, Cocoa - 636-3343
- North Area Animal Center, Titusville - 264-5119
- South Animal Care Center, Melbourne - 253-6608.

In the event that all shelters are full, the Melbourne Greyhound

Park at 1100 N. Wickham Rd., Melbourne, has volunteered its facility as a Temporary Disaster Relief Shelter for Pets of people in the evacuation areas only.

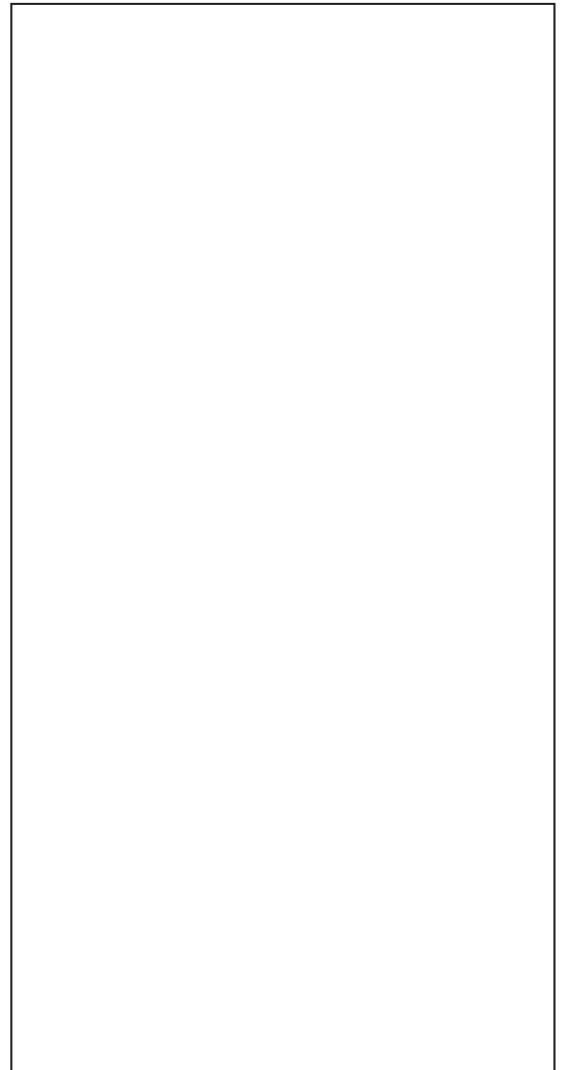
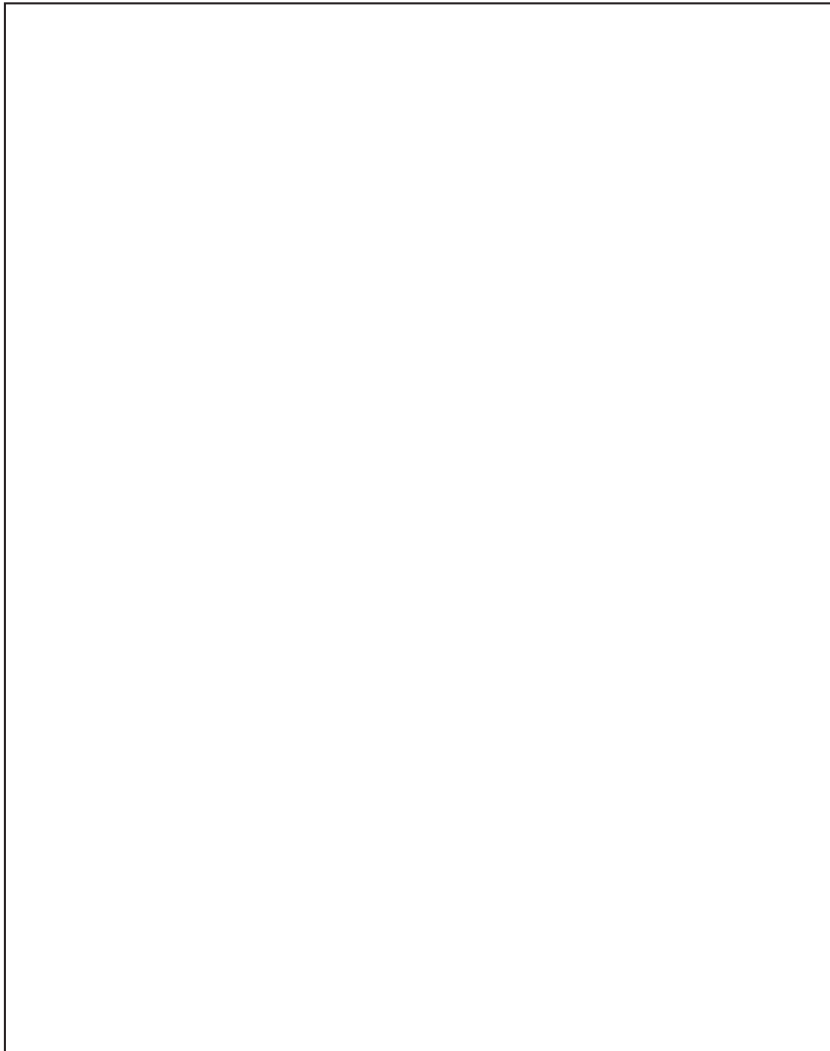
## Pet Friendly Shelter

For further information, go to [www.brevardanimalservices.com](http://www.brevardanimalservices.com).

It is very important to bring current rabies certificates, medications and food.



Courtesy photo



# Test your hurricane knowledge

- 1: Strong tropical winds in the Western Pacific are called:  
 A) hurricanes  
 B) cyclones  
 C) tropical storms  
 D) typhoons
- 2: Hurricane season for the Atlantic Ocean is from:  
 A) Jan. 1 through July 31  
 B) June 1 through Dec. 15  
 C) June 1 through Nov. 30  
 D) Feb. 2 through July 13
- 3: The term "extratropical" means a storm:  
 A) has grown to record intensity
- B) is occurring within the Gulf of Mexico  
 C) has lost its tropical characteristics  
 D) will not reach tropical islands
- 4: A major hurricane is defined as:  
 A) 2 or higher  
 B) 3 or higher  
 C) 6 or higher  
 D) 8 or higher
- 5: A tropical storm has sustained wind speed of:  
 A) 15 mph to 45 mph  
 B) 39 mph to 73 mph  
 C) 74 mph to 83 mph  
 D) 85 mph to 90 mph
- 6: Since 1851, the mainland U.S. State hit with the most direct hits by a hurricane is:  
 A) Louisiana  
 B) North Carolina  
 C) California  
 D) Florida
- 7: Put these 2004 hurricanes in order by damage costs, largest to smallest. Costs are not adjusted for inflation:  
 A) Jeanne  
 B) Ivan  
 C) Frances  
 D) Charley
- 8: A tropical storm becomes a hurricane when wind speeds reach:  
 A) 39 mph or more  
 B) 74 mph or more  
 C) 52 mph or more  
 D) 22 mph or more
- 9: A hurricane warning is issued when hurricane conditions are expected in:  
 A) 24 hours or less  
 B) 36 hours or less  
 C) 12 hours or less  
 D) 2 hours or less
- 10: Which letters are not used to create names for storms?  
 A) E, K, P, W, and I  
 B) D, G, O, V and Z  
 C) F, L, M, U and Y  
 D) Q, U, X, Y and Z
- 11: Since 1851, which month has produced the most major hits on the U.S. mainland?  
 A) July  
 B) August  
 C) September
- D) November
- 12: What did Hurricane Andrew's minimum pressure (mb) fall to?  
 A) 892  
 B) 900  
 C) 922  
 D) 945

Answers  
 1: D  
 2: C  
 3: C  
 4: B  
 5: B  
 6: D  
 7: D, B, C and A  
 8: B  
 9: A  
 10: D  
 11: C  
 12: C

45th Space Wing  
Hurricane Conditions  
(HURCON)  
Destructive winds of  
50 knots or greater  
are possible within:

**HURCON IV**  
72 hours

**HURCON III**  
48 hours

**HURCON II**  
24 hours

**HURCON I**  
12 hours

A hurricane watch is issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours.

A hurricane warning is when hurricane conditions are expected in 24 hours or less.

## Hurricane categories

Category	Knots	MPH	Surge (ft.)
1	64-82	74-95	4-5
2	83-95	96-110	6-8
3	96-113	111-130	9-12
4	114-135	131-155	13-18
5	> 135	> 155	> 18

# Are you legally prepared for hurricane season?

**By Capt. K. Michelle  
McAdoo**  
*45th SW Legal Office*

Another hurricane season is right around the corner, and it is important to have a plan in place should disaster strike. Part of this plan should be that you are "legally prepared" for what may come. While you may remember to keep the family cat and photos with you, many forget to keep proof that they own their possessions and insurance documents with them as well. A lot of headaches can be

saved if a plan is in place before disaster strikes. Depending on whether you are living on-base, in privatized housing, and off-base, there are different insurance options available and different levels of protection.

First, take inventory of what you own. Make a video tape or take pictures of your belongings and mail this to someone in a safer location. A quick thirty minute photo shoot can be invaluable if your possessions are destroyed and you

have to attempt to list everything you own.

Next, have important papers and documents in one safe, central, easy to locate place in case of an evacuation. Also, decide what you plan to do with personal valuables and sentimental items now. A checklist of what you want to take with you may be extremely helpful during the stress of an evacuation.

Then, find out what kind of insurance you have, and ensure that flood insurance is a part of that protection.

On-base residents are protected for losses of personal property under the Personnel Claims Act and will be reimbursed the depreciated value of their property, but that may not be enough to purchase a replacement for the property you lost. We recommend to people living on-base, purchase additional renter's insurance to make sure you are reimbursed the full-replacement value of your property. On-base residents may also seek reimbursement through the Personnel Claims Act for losses due to power surges and food spoilage. Privatized housing residents are automatically provided with a renter's insurance policy, but it may or may not be enough to cover your property, so be sure to take an inventory of your property to determine if additional renter's insurance would be necessary to make you whole if disaster should

strike. Your lease details the renter's insurance provisions currently in place. Unlike the on-base residents, those in privatized housing may not seek reimbursement for losses due to power surges or food spoilage, as their coverage is a traditional renter's insurance policy. For those who do not live on-base or in privatized housing, be aware that you are not automatically protected and should obtain renter's insurance of an amount adequate to cover the full-replacement value of your belongings.

There is no way to completely avoid a hurricane if one occurs, but through preparation you can lessen the stress and more adequately protect yourself from devastating losses. If you would like more information on how you can be legally-prepared for a hurricane, please contact the base legal office.